

APPENDIX A. SUMMARY OF ACIP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HEPATITIS B VACCINATION OF INFANTS, CHILDREN, AND ADOLESCENTS

Maternal hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) testing

- All pregnant women should be tested routinely for HBsAg.

Vaccination of infants

At birth

- Infants born to mothers who are HBsAg positive should receive hepatitis B vaccine and hepatitis B immune globulin (HBIG) <12 hours of birth.
- Infants born to mothers whose HBsAg status is unknown should receive hepatitis B vaccine <12 hours of birth. The mother should have blood drawn as soon as possible to determine her HBsAg status; if she is HBsAg positive, the infant should receive HBIG as soon as possible (no later than age 1 week).
- Full-term infants who are medically stable and weigh >2,000 g born to HBsAg-negative mothers should receive single-antigen hepatitis B vaccine before hospital discharge.
- Preterm infants weighing <2,000 g born to HBsAg-negative mothers should receive the first dose of vaccine 1 month after birth or at hospital discharge.

After the birth dose

- All infants should complete the hepatitis B vaccine series with either single-antigen vaccine or combination vaccine, according to a recommended vaccination schedule.
- Infants born to HBsAg-positive mothers should be tested for HBsAg and antibody to HBsAg after completion of the hepatitis B vaccine series at age 9–18 months.

Vaccination of children and adolescents

- All unvaccinated children and adolescents aged <19 years should receive the hepatitis B vaccine series.

Source: CDC. A comprehensive immunization strategy to eliminate transmission of hepatitis B virus infection in the United States: recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). Part 1: immunization of infants, children, and adolescents. *MMWR* 2005(RR-16).